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**ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### City Crews Continue Battle Aftereffects of Record Rainfall

The Division of Public Works is actively making emergency repairs to a minor sanitary sewer line break near the Loosahatchie River that runs to the North Waste Water Treatment Plant. The city activated its Emergency Response Plan and steps were immediately taken to begin repairing the 42 inch sewer line. Public Works crews and the contractor estimate temporary repairs to be completed within 48 hours.

The location of the incident is the Loosahatchie River near Sunnybrook Drive. The spill was discovered late Monday afternoon. Sewer services to homes and businesses in both Memphis and Millington have not, and will not be affected. This incident has not harmed our drinking water. While there is no immediate threat to public health or safety, the public is asked to avoid contact with the water in this area, down to the Mississippi River. The City will post signs to warn people who like to fish or boat in this area.

The City of Memphis operates the largest waste water treatment system in the state which includes more than 3,200 miles of sewer lines. We routinely check these pipes for maintenance and any potential failure. This recent break and the break at South Cypress Creek are the result of significant erosion after record rainfall in March which washed away the soil that contains these pipes.

We want to assure residents that the City of Memphis and its contractor crews will be working around the clock until the line is repaired. We will refer to the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation to respond to any environmental questions.

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